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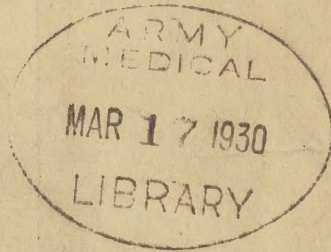
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A Popular Summary

of the

Cleveland Hospital and Health Survey



A Popular Summary of the Cleveland Hospital and Health Survey

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THE CLEVELAND HOSPITAL COUNCIL

Cleveland, Ohio

Preface

SICKNESS and deaths from communicable diseases cost Cleveland last year \$25,000,000. Two per cent of her citizens are sick all the time from causes, half of which are preventable. This does not mean that Cleveland is worse than other cities in the matter of public health, but it would indicate that it is no better. One would expect that a city that has impressed the entire United States with its community spirit, would lead in all movements of civic health betterment. It is surprising to find that only in rare instances is this the case.

The following is a summary by sections of the exhaustive report, the result of the work of a large staff of competent men and women, experts in their various fields, under the direction of the Survey Committee, appointed for the purpose by the Cleveland Hospital Council. A number of investigations were made and records compiled, in order that some definite recommendations for a practical working program might be evolved. Nor is it too much to hope that this study of the local situation will stimulate similar studies elsewhere.

If the investigators have seemed unduly pessimistic at times and have laid more stress upon the glaring needs and shortcomings rather than upon what has been done, it is only to rouse the citizens of Cleveland to active interest in making their city foremost in improving its community health.

Dr. Haven Emerson, who directed the Survey, has well said that it is impossible to state in terms of money equivalent the importance of public health or the waste of money and of human labor, the burden upon life, the deficit in happiness which result from ill health, but the report is impressive even to the much abused man-in-the-street who is supposed to be merely a mechanical adding machine devoid of sympathies, emotions, or imagination.

The complete reports, separately bound by sections, may be obtained from the Cleveland Hospital Council, 308 Anisfield Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

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Environment and Sanitation

WITH a typical Lake Region climate, moderate, without excessive humidity, winds, or extreme temperature, Cleveland, climatically speaking, would be altogether healthful were these advantages not so largely offset by smoke and fumes. These, while characteristic of many big cities, are alarmingly noticeable in Cleveland.

Happily, there are few acutely crowded districts in the city, the average number of persons per acre being 13, as against New York's 26. Some of the tenements and lodging houses, it must be said, are in a deplorable condition, in no way complying with city regulations. People most crowded are the Negroes, Italians, Jews, and foreign-born Slavs, Slovaks, Lithuanians and Poles, who have not yet learned their rights in the matter. It is worthy of note, too, that there is no distinct crowded tenement district, explained, probably, by the wide distribution of the factories. Factory workers live as near their work as possible and 48 per cent of them walk to work.

In the matter of the water supply, Cleveland citizens can be justly proud. The water comes from the lake, to be sure, but the cribs are four and a half miles from shore and the purifying process is so perfect that there is no need for anyone to buy bottled water. Daily tests are made and a million people are provided with pure water at a moderate cost. Cleveland's low typhoid rate may be attributed to the purity of her water.

While the disposition of the sewage into the lake is handled in a fairly safe way, it is to be regretted that because of lack of money, plans for a more perfect sewage system have not been carried out.

Garbage collection in Cleveland has not been systematic or adequate. The garbage is sent to Willow, just south of the city, where the usual modern separating and incinerating processes are followed. The rubbish and ashes have been used in building a hundred acres of land on the lake front, near Ninth Street. The Director of Public Service is having an intensive study made of the disposal of garbage, rubbish and ashes.

Cleveland, however, has done less than other cities for the cleaning of the streets. "White wing" patrols, pickups and flushing are used over the 609 miles of pavement, but the amount of work varies, as evidenced by the unpardonable filth and neglect of streets during the winter of 1919-1920. There must be more money, a more efficient organization, and cooperation from the public before matters can be improved. It is encouraging to note that the Director of Public Service is now planning changes in the Street Cleaning Department.

In spite of the fact that the public should be educated to the dangers resulting from flies and mosquitoes, there are a surprising number of fly-

breeding places in the city. It is to be concluded that the control of the milk and water and the education of mothers, are responsible for the low incidence of enteric diseases and not the control of the fly. Fortunately, mosquitoes are not present in sufficient numbers to need special attention.

Cleveland's indifference to the polluted air, which persists over the greater part of the city through the entire year, is amazing. The city spends \$8,400 annually in salaries for smoke abatement, but the results are negligible. This indifference to the smoke nuisance is responsible for a great deal of sickness in the city and neglect of it causes plant owners, house owners and the city as a whole each year a loss of several times the amount of the annual Community Fund, or about \$20,000,000. Such air is as unfit for human consumption as the polluted water used to be.

Cleveland deposits only a little less soot than Pittsburgh and London did before they took rigorous steps to improve conditions. Cleveland is supine in the face of a real danger. Diseases are augmented by irritation from coal dust, pneumonia is increased in frequency and severity, the continued exclusion of sunlight reduces bactericidal action, and dirty air makes dirty streets, yards, clothes and people.

Plant and tree life are destroyed by smoke with its attendant gases, and child life is infinitely more tender and precious.

Public Health Services. Private Health Agencies.

CLEVELAND, with her splendid community spirit, has gone farther than any other city in the country in organizing for community action, but the administrative organization for Public Health is hampered by party politics and by lack of money. The employes of the Division of Health, in many cases, are selected by the Mayor, rather than by the Health Commissioner. The workers in the Division are devoted and enthusiastic and give a quality of service out of all proportion to the remuneration and public support. There are also many private agencies whose work would be more effective if they were welded into a Cleveland Health Association.

Investigation of the various Bureaus forming the Division of Health reveals the following facts:

The Bureau of Communicable Disease lacks the cooperation of the doctors, who often fail to report cases, and of the people, who, nurses state, are generally careless about quarantine. There are seven full-time doctors with offices at the seven health centers. Their territory is too large to oversee properly. There is a shortage of nurses. The Sanitation Squad is thorough and creditable though it can do little constructive work because its time is largely spent satisfying complaints.

The Bureau of Food and Dairy Inspection has supervision only of the meat and milk of Cleveland. No uninspected meat is sold in the city, and the milk is carefully tested. It is recommended, however, that there be more insistence upon the sterilization of bottles and milking machines.

In general, the bakeries and restaurants in Cleveland are found to be clean. This, with the inspection of water and all foods except meat and milk, comes under the duties of the Laboratories Bureau. All food is examined as it enters the city. Patent medicines also are analyzed by this Bureau, and many have been excluded from Cleveland, thanks to the co-operation of the druggists. The problem would be much more easily handled if the newspapers maintained their publications without the aid of patent medicine "ads."

According to Dr. Louis I. Dublin, statistician, records of births, deaths, and diseases in Cleveland (the work of the Bureau of Vital Statistics) are simply non-existent. The \$7,000 spent annually on salaries appears to be wasted. The present force is adequate, but intelligent supervision and leadership is needed.

As nothing can be said in favor of the coroner of any city, it is recommended that Cleveland would do well to follow the example of New York

and Boston who have appointed a city medical examiner. The office of coroner always has its political connections, its opportunity for "graft" and its temptation to cover up crime and, as a general rule, is filled by a man who is unprepared for his medical duties.

It was also revealed that although more people are employed by the city than by any organization in or near it, there is no medical examination of city employes.

The private health agencies in the city are mostly dealt with in other sections of this report. The Associated Charities, with its trained workers, is giving most helpful service. The homes for the blind and for orphans and the day nurseries are all active.

Provisions for crippled children, however, are inadequate—lamentably so. Orthopedic surgeons are surprisingly few, the hospitals have little room for these cases and though six of them have dispensary service for cripples, the equipment is poor and follow-up work erratic. The Association for the Crippled and Disabled is a very valuable agency but has not yet assumed its fullest possibilities. Its work should be extended. The Public Schools care for less than a fourth of the crippled children of school age but these few receive special orthopedic treatment.

Special attention also is called to the startling fact that more deaths in Ohio are due to heart disease than to any other cause. Annual medical examinations are urged so that proper steps may be taken to prevent the disease.

A Program For Child Health

THERE are in Cleveland at least 20,000 children under two years of age who should have health supervision which their parents are unable to give them. Various child welfare agencies are doing admirable work. They are limited, however, because of inadequate facilities, and the lack of strong central control is evident. There should be a Central Child Council, which would make possible coordination of the work done by the Division of Health and the Board of Education, and by private child caring agencies.

City nurses are entirely too few. As much of their time must be spent in clerical duties, it is impossible for them to go to the homes to study the environment and see that directions are followed.

It is found that birth records are very incomplete. There seems to be a reluctance on the part of doctors and midwives to report births and in many cases only the death records show that the child had been born.

As 80 per cent of all deaths from contagious diseases in the United States occur among children under five years of age, the importance of the care of children from two to five years old cannot be overestimated. There are more physical defects and more cases of diphtheria in children of this group than of any other. Day nurseries, of which there are seven in Cleveland, give service to only 200 children and it is estimated that 50 per cent of the children of the two to five age are wholly without health supervision. Theoretically, the schools should care for these children of pre-school age, but practically, that is impossible.

There are nineteen institutions for children in Cleveland, but their system of health supervision is lax. Only three of them examine on entrance and but three of them have admission quarantine, while none of them conducts a periodic medical examination. The system of boarding children in private families, under supervision, should be encouraged.

Parochial school inspection is not well organized or at all extensive and is in no sense adequate.

An elaborate system of inspection which can hardly be termed examination, is in force in the public schools. It is neither thorough nor satisfactory, but plans are under way to improve it. Doctors and nurses are badly needed. Each doctor supervises from six to nine schools and each nurse has three thousand children under her care. The nurse also makes the records which were found to be incomplete and deficient.

The weakest spot in the School Medical plan seems to be in the supervision. The spirit, intentions and ideas of the supervising or "field" nurses are excellent, but there are pitifully few supervisors.

The Junior Health Workers are unique to Cleveland. They are educated women of unusually high type who relieve the nurses. Their splendid work should be extended and emphasized.

Nineteen fresh air rooms are maintained in the schools. There is one school for the deaf, classes for the blind are held in twelve schools (an adequate provision), there is a school for crippled children (wholly inadequate for Cleveland's needs), and thirty schools have classes for the mentally defective.

There is little or no hygiene work in the grades and the high school teachers feel the need of a standardized hygiene outline.

The school buildings are in good sanitary condition, the new ones being well planned in the matters of heating, lighting, seating and blackboard arrangements. The drinking fountains leave something to be desired because of insufficient pressure.

By far the greatest criticism on the equipment of the schools lies in the artificial ventilation system. It has been proved that children in rooms ventilated by open windows gain more rapidly in strength and weight. The additional coal required in schools using the open window is more than paid for by the saving of the original cost of an expensive ventilating system.

That present plans for coordinating the Department of Physical Training and the Department of Medical Inspection, be completed as soon as possible, is strongly recommended. At the present time, oddly enough, they are absolutely unrelated.

Tuberculosis

CLEVELAND, far from being behind other cities in the matter of tuberculosis prevention is, in many respects, a pioneer community and has accepted the challenge to be a national leader in the work. Although there is no chief of the Bureau of Tuberculosis in the Division of Health, the Health Commissioner and the eighty city nurses devote much of their time to it. The care given in the seven health centers is worthy of high commendation.

Cleveland is admirably equipped with legislation for the prevention of the spread of the Great White Plague. The ordinances regarding the inspection of milk are fairly well enforced and much is being done in the way of getting milk at cost for tuberculous citizens. The enforcement of the housing ordinances, however, is woefully inadequate. Lot and room overcrowding are most dangerous and must be stopped if tuberculosis is to be stamped out. The type of tenement houses, their repair and maintenance, do not come up to the Government standard in many cases. There is the proper legislation for the segregation of advanced cases of tuberculosis, but it is rarely employed. Less and less attention is being paid to the anti-spitting ordinance. From January, 1919, to June, 1920, no arrests had been made for its violation. Such a law is essential and its enforcement should be insisted upon.

The Warrensville Tuberculosis Sanatorium is in many respects a model institution in equipment and management. There are four or five doctors on the staff and 254 beds devoted largely, unfortunately, to advanced cases. Other institutional provisions for pulmonary cases are found in the Ohio State Sanatorium, which has 23 beds reserved for Cleveland patients; the City Hospital, a building that has little to recommend it in equipment or appearance, with 100 beds; the State Insane Hospital, where there are six beds for Cleveland; and the general hospitals which usually care for from ten to twelve cases. Non-pulmonary cases are treated in camps, in the Rainbow Hospital and the Home for Crippled Children.

After years of good work, the Anti-Tuberculosis League in Cleveland is found to be somewhat at a standstill. It has a wonderful opportunity in educational work alone, for the prevention and care of the disease can be greatly facilitated by an organized educational program in schools, factories, and on the street. The work of the League should and must be extended to meet the need in Cleveland.

The Associated Charities (Cleveland has one of the best organizations of this kind in the country) and the Red Cross are doing much to alleviate conditions. There seems to be little enthusiasm on the part of Cleveland

doctors, owing, no doubt, to the lack of opportunity in the city for special study in this field. Western Reserve Medical School should supply a post-graduate training course in tuberculosis, open to all doctors, and it is hoped that a consultation service, with the cooperation of Western Reserve University may be established.

The factories should do more in detecting tuberculosis in its early stages. Over half the cases found are advanced ones and little can be done then to effect a cure. This is a vitally important point. Annual or semi-annual examinations of all employes is recommended.

Cleveland must have more nurses. There is only one for every six thousand inhabitants and there should be one for each three thousand. Then, too, there must be at least five hundred more beds in Warrensville, the City Hospital, and the general hospitals, devoted to the care of tuberculous patients. All these arrangements will lose their force, however, unless an active educational campaign is waged.

Venereal Disease

CLEVELAND, while no worse than other cities in the country, is certainly no better in the matter of venereal disease. Medical examinations at the time of the War disclosed the fact that there are between 8,000 and 10,000 patients treated annually in Cleveland for venereal diseases and there are probably 30,000 Clevelanders suffering from gonorrhea or syphilis.

No appreciable amount of continuous, constructive work has been done. There are the usual laws for the prevention of infection and there is the necessary machinery to enforce those laws, but in many instances both are inoperative. The elimination of the old red-light district was an excellent advance, but, because of that, hotels, apartment houses, together with the elusive go-between chauffeur, need closer inspection than ever. Ohio has the best prostitution law ever devised and there is no excuse for the laxity in its enforcement.

In common with the rest of the country, Cleveland is badly in need of complete community understanding of this subject. An educational campaign to include schools, churches, homes, associations and business houses, is urged and should be inaugurated at once. The Division of Health has not done its part in this matter. It is unfortunate that advantage was not taken of the situation created during the war when the country was so aroused by the appalling prevalence of venereal disease. The public should and could be trained by a careful system of education, to avoid possible infection. The opportunities that lie in regulated and improved amusements and recreation have not been appreciated in Cleveland.

The facilities for the treatment of gonorrhea and syphilis are as good here as in other cities. Help is given to the very poor as well as to those who are able to pay. There are three dispensaries. The Lakeside Hospital clinic is inadequate in facilities, owing to the poor building, crowded conditions and depressing surroundings. Those in charge, however, are competent, interested and anxious, and give as good treatment as possible under the difficulties with which they must contend.

Mt. Sinai Hospital has a well-arranged, clean, efficient clinic, managed in a kindly, human way. The follow-up system is particularly good.

St. Vincent's Hospital venereal clinic has grown so fast that the administrative machinery does not run smoothly. The staff is irregular and the treatment, accordingly, spasmodic.

The City Hospital, where those in need of hospital care are treated, has

never been entirely satisfactory. The building is in such a wretched state that no work can be done well.

It is hoped that the other hospitals will soon outgrow their old fear of accepting venereal patients for treatment. It has been proved that no more danger to the other patients or to the staff results from them than from typhoid and pneumonia cases.

Mental Health

BEYOND doubt Cleveland has the poorest provisions for mental patients to be found in the United States. There is nowhere in the city a place for the proper observation of such patients nor for emergency treatment. The process of commitment to the only hospital where they are cared for is more a matter of law than of medicine. The judges themselves admit that injustice is often done because of archaic laws.

In no other department of the City Hospital is its inadequacy quite so apparent. There are evidences of modern science in the other wards, but the mental ward lacks any sign of science or of humanitarian public interest. The building was constructed for a poorhouse in 1851. Its gloomy, dilapidated little eight by nine rooms, which are often occupied by two people, have no artificial light and are heated only from the corridors. One bathtub serves for sixty patients. The people are all herded together regardless of age, mood or social standing. There are only two trained nurses, but the one bright spot in the apparently hopeless situation is the devotion and kindness of these nurses and of their untrained assistants. Nothing so well represents the spirit of Cleveland toward its insane poor as this wretched place.

Nor do the other hospitals of the city offer much provision for mental cases. Only four have any accommodations at all. The others contain no psychiatric service whatever. This condition expresses the present emphasis of medical science on physical ailments to the total disregard of mental needs. The medical school falls short of its obligation in this respect but it realizes its deficiency and plans a modern clinic in connection with Lakeside Hospital.

The jail often proves a temporary place of residence for the insane and there separate quarters are provided and special attention given. It should not be necessary for the jail to assume this extra burden, however.

Although Warrensville Farm receives mental cases and holds them until the state can provide for them, no special mental physician is employed in the two insane wards. Custodial treatment only is provided.

As the private sanatoria of the state may be operated without license and are entirely without state supervision and inspection, some render valuable service—and some should be put out of business. It is high time that the state of Ohio made legal regulations for such institutions, no matter how private they are.

A lack of that helpful, considerate quality noticeable in the laws of most states, is found in those of Ohio. Many preliminary steps must be taken,

including a personal appearance in a public court, before a citizen may be sent to a state institution.

The State Hospital in Cleveland has been surrounded by the city. It should be housed farther out where quiet and the out-of-doors may contribute their curative services. There are four insane people to every thousand inhabitants. The Cleveland State Hospital is sadly overcrowded, there being 20 per cent more than the buildings are intended to accommodate. Ten per cent of the inmates die each year, a fact easily understood when one considers that one doctor attends 485 patients. This is one of the lowest ratios in the United States. Few institutions spend as little for upkeep as this one. The superintendent, though woefully underpaid, is alert, interested and ambitious for his institution.

The State Hospital for the Feeble-Minded in Columbus accommodates a few Cleveland cases. We are prone to believe that the schools take care of that problem, but it is not enough to have supervision only during school hours. Arrangements should be made for vocational training.

The Hospital for Epileptics at Gallipolis was the first of its kind in the country. It takes care of 200 Cleveland patients. Another building is badly needed. No special classes for epileptic children are conducted in Cleveland.

Admirable work is being done by the Bureau of Juvenile Research which determines the necessity for special guardianship of children and makes arrangements for such care. It is hoped that the present shortage of funds will not lead to the discontinuance of this Bureau.

Industrial Medical Service

IN SPITE of the comparative novelty of industrial medical service, Cleveland is awake to its possibilities and there is no large concern in the city that has not made some provision for it. While there are only seven factories that employ full-time physicians, over twenty have a part-time arrangement. There has been a dearth of doctors willing to give all their time to factory work, but since the value of such service is being more generally recognized, the remuneration is more adequate and a better class of doctors is being attracted to it.

Industrial nursing is still less standardized. The nurses are usually graduate registered nurses and they are doing much to encourage hygienic conditions both in the factories and the homes. The Industrial Nurses Club is an excellent beginning toward the organizing of nurses engaged in this work. Such a club is necessary to maintain the ideals and standards of the profession. While there is a splendid opportunity for practical nurses to act as matrons and to do the visiting, there is always the danger of indiscriminate medication.

There is a deplorable scarcity of records in the factories. There should be a card catalog system and a careful record of expenditures should be kept. It was found that the annual cost of supplying medical service varies from \$5 to \$12 per employe. Too often employers have considered the matter of health, even the presence of tuberculosis and venereal disease, such a personal subject that it should not be interfered with. More and more this attitude is passing and the wise employer knows that it is to his advantage to get and keep his men in the best condition. Annual physical examinations are recommended and urged.

A need is felt in Cleveland for an industrial hospital or for certain reservations in other hospitals for emergencies, because often urgent cases must be taken to several hospitals before room can be found for them.

Dental work is maintained in a number of the industrial plants of the city and five firms employ oculists.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY

The question of women in industry must be solved by the interest of the community. It is not a new thing to find women working in factories, in the metal, knitting, garment and candy industries, but the special attention to their welfare, physical and moral, is rather new. Laws protect women adequately, but there are many ways to evade them. Night work among women is to be discouraged and should be forbidden by law.

The status of women in the mercantile establishments in Cleveland is of

the highest order. Health and hygiene are recognized as being of supreme importance and the business houses also extend service outside the regular hours by means of clubs. It is encouraging to note this aspect.

CHILDREN IN INDUSTRY

Seventy-five per cent of the children of Cleveland of seventeen years of age are already at work and many have been at it for two or three years. Their passage into industry is made without special guidance. We are proud of our child labor laws which prohibit boys from working until they are 15 and have completed the sixth grade, and girls till they are 16 and have passed the seventh grade, but the best laws lose their virtue when they are not enforced, and they are not enforced in Cleveland. The truant officers, whose duty it is to see that there is no illegal employment of children, are doing their best, but each has 10,000 children under his supervision and naturally some will be neglected, and the fact that they are at work illegally will be undiscovered.

Employers endeavor to justify themselves by citing the abnormal labor shortage and the tendency of foreign parents to push their children into industry. Most of the children employed in the city are in manufacturing concerns, retail and wholesale trade, telegraph and telephone service and street trades. The conditions in this last employment are particularly trying. There is an unenforced city ordinance regarding the presence of very young boys, especially newsboys, working on the street. There are some in the down-town section who are only six years old. The dangers, psychological and physiological, are obvious.

Supervision should be exercised in individual cases. Some children mature earlier than others. Their bones are flexible and as so many of the working children come from poor families, they are anaemic and underfed. In some utopian future, the employers will provide this supervision of children, but till then the industrial medical service of the city must assume the responsibility. This is now maintained only through the school period, and takes the form of records. No regular systematic instruction in hygiene is now offered in the schools. The responsibility of the school should not cease when the children leave its doors, but it should keep in touch till they are at least 18. The Junior Vocation Department of the city is developing into a helpful force, but it should connect with the Board of Education if it is to fulfill its highest purpose.

Professional Education and Practice

MEDICINE IN CLEVELAND

WESTERN RESERVE University Medical School, the only institution in Cleveland responsible for the preparation of doctors, has not "sold" itself to the Cleveland public. This, too, in spite of the fact that nearly 30 per cent of the doctors of Cleveland are graduates of the school. It has not commanded the respect and confidence of the people which it has merited in many instances.

The defects in the school are attributed to several causes. The City Hospital is not at present located as near to the University as it should be. The proximity of the two would allow the teaching staff to make the most of their time in both places. There is, too, a lack of teachers who are not only leaders in their work but who have the ability to teach. Strong courses in orthopedics, heart disease and tuberculosis are sorely needed in so large a school. These must certainly come with improved building facilities and the much needed endowments.

QUACKS AND PATENT MEDICINES

The strength of quack doctoring in Cleveland among the foreign element is demonstrated by the fact that from 30 per cent to 60 per cent of the advertising done in the foreign papers is quack doctor and patent medicine advertising. These doctors take infinite pains to win the confidence of the immigrant, who naturally places his confidence in anything in the new country. This gullibility should be capitalized by the good interests and the city must teach and protect its foreign population.

DENTISTRY IN CLEVELAND

Although the status of dentistry in Cleveland has improved greatly in the last five years, it is still considered inadequate. The profession itself has risen all over the country because of the education of the public and its alliance with the medical profession in connection with diseases.

The Western Reserve College of Dentistry has reached a high standard and is entitled to rank among the best. It needs a 50 per cent increase in space and at least ten new teachers who are more than successful practitioners.

Boston offers as much dispensary dental facilities in a week as Cleveland does in a year. If the present facilities were doubled they would still be entirely inadequate. The work is now carried on in six public schools, financed through the Board of Education; three health centers, for which an appro-

priation is made in the Community Chest; and in the City Hospital. The clinics in the Dental School are self-supporting.

It is surprising and deplorable that the hospitals of Cleveland have not yet learned to appreciate the necessity of having a dentist on their staffs. Very little provision of any kind is made for dental work in the hospitals.

PHARMACY

Pharmacy in Cleveland deserves high commendation. Most of the practicing pharmacists have had a college course of two or three years. Although Cleveland has no rules, laws, or regulations governing drug stores, except the narcotic and sanitary ordinances, the druggists have a splendid spirit of cooperation with the Division of Health. They inform officers of common dangers and have agreed to refuse to offer patent medicines for sale until they have been analyzed by the City Chemist.

The Western Reserve University School of Pharmacy, which should stand on a plane with the Medical School, suffers by its location in a depressing down-town section. It is suggested that the school come into closer relationship with the hospitals, thus enabling both to render a higher type of service. It is also recommended that seniors serve an internship in the hospitals.

Nursing

NOT one of the thirteen training schools for nurses in Cleveland can be pointed to as a model institution. Each has its special virtues, of course. Even the City Hospital, against which so much has had to be said, has excellent provisions for training in contagious diseases, and an especially well-arranged and equipped nurses' home. If the hospitals showed inclination to affiliate for education of nurses, each would have the benefit of the others' strong points.

In most of the schools the teaching of the fundamental sciences is weak, because of the lack of good teachers who can devote their entire time to teaching. As things are, either their routine work or their teaching must suffer, and as the work must be done, the teaching is neglected.

Another fault, common to practically all of the hospitals, is the over-emphasis of surgical training. When medical cases are crowded out, the training cannot be well-rounded.

Cleveland has an excellent opportunity to take a leading place in the country in the training of nurses. The proposed University School of Nursing has so many advantages that its adoption seems only a question of time. Such a plan would attract to the profession a better class of students, who would be considered university students; the instruction, equipment and teaching force would be of a higher quality; and the independence of the training school and of the hospital would be established. Cleveland should be anxious to make this important contribution. The Visiting Nurse Association has already seen the wisdom of uniting with Western Reserve University, and its admirably organized course has achieved a high measure of success.

In her public health nursing Cleveland leads, thanks to the unique Central Committee on Public Nursing. No other city has ventured to adopt a generalized municipal system, that is, the scheme of dividing the city into small sections, each watched over by a nurse. Where there has been failure in the plan, the blame may be laid to the inadequate number of nurses. They are so overloaded with work that they cannot be equal to their ideals. There should be 113 more than are at present employed.

Cleveland school nursing, through the agency of the Central Nursing Committee, is of high standard. There is a fine spirit of application among the workers, but because of the usual lack of numbers in this department, there is little time to be given to home inspection.

Thirty-six plants in Cleveland provide industrial nursing. As it is a new field, the nurses are not yet certain of what should be expected of them.

Some are solely dispensers, limiting their work to the first aid room, while others devote themselves exclusively to recreational work. An industrial nurse, in addition to these duties, must inform herself of factory conditions, common and special dangers, and must eternally teach the prevention of disease and the cultivation of hygienic habits. There is always the chance to observe individuals and to recommend beneficial changes in occupation.

Through a recent questionnaire, it has been found that untrained attendants can be used to advantage in making records and in home follow-up work, and there are many visiting cases where a "practical" nurse would do fully as well as the high-salaried graduate nurse.

Hospitals and Dispensaries

CLEVELAND hospitals care for 10 per cent of the 20,000 people who are ill at any one time. Hospitals furnish facilities unavailable otherwise, and through them doctors can render better service to a larger group than in any other way.

Cleveland falls far below other large cities, however, in the number of hospital beds for its population. On the basis of five beds for each thousand population, there should be 1,500 more. The use of the present beds, as well as the new ones, must be more widely varied. Now nearly half of them are devoted to surgical cases, only 115 to obstetrical cases, four to eye diseases, and none especially to ear, nose, or throat troubles. The City Hospital, which has 100 beds for contagious diseases, should have 400.

It has been found that the best system for conducting a hospital is through a Board of Trustees. This Board should include representatives of all elements, not merely doctors and nurses, and not business men exclusively. They must select a superintendent who is in every way suited to the office and must then give her sufficient authority. The superintendent's lack of proper authority has been observed, as has also the fact that the nursing schools are being used as a means of obtaining cheap nursing labor. If this persists, the relation of such schools to the hospital must be as distinct as that of the medical schools at the present time.

Each hospital must have its regular staff of doctors. Only 29 per cent. of Cleveland doctors are affiliated with any hospital. The foreign-born physicians have almost no representation, and the one negro doctor on the staff of Lakeside Hospital is the sole representative of his race on a Cleveland hospital staff.

Every hospital should have a complete system of accounting and book-keeping, employing experts if necessary. There should be an investigator on the staff to ascertain the financial condition of patients. It would be possible for several hospitals to engage the same investigator.

The Purchasing Department of the Hospital Council is a distinct and notable achievement, characteristic of Cleveland. Through cooperative buying the hospitals are able to take advantage of seasonable markets for canned goods and other provisions, and the purchasing of drugs and surgical supplies in large quantities naturally reduces the cost. It is surprising that some hospitals do not welcome the opportunity of using this department.

The problem of getting patients to hospitals is one that has received almost no attention in Cleveland. There are three agencies through which ambulance service may be obtained: the police patrol, the private undertaking establishments, and the City Hospital, which possesses one ambulance. While the police patrols are prompt, they carry no first aid kit, an

inexcusable omission, and there is a natural aversion on the part of the citizens to riding in a police emergency ambulance. Nor do they relish being carried through the streets in the undertaker's "dead wagon." The City Hospital ambulance gives most unreliable service, even postponing a call two days. There is complaint, too, about the failure to fumigate the ambulance after use. Each large hospital needs its own ambulance, and the smaller ones could maintain such service by combining.

Eighty-seven and a half per cent of the patients who leave the hospitals go home to unfavorable surroundings. It is the duty of the hospital to give instruction for home convalescence and to make definite suggestions for use of the dispensary. A city as large as Cleveland should have institutional accommodations for 12,000 convalescents during a year. Such a home should be in the country. The building need not be new or expensive, and the cost, which is only half that of hospital care, could be borne by charging \$1.75 per day. At present the hospitals must take care of convalescents, as is proved by the fact that 12.5 per cent of the hospital cases observed had been in the institution over two months.

Social service in hospitals and dispensaries of Cleveland has been only slightly developed. Those organizations that are in existence are too closely confined to hospital admission and dispensary records. It should not be the province of social service workers merely to be kind to the patients, that is the general duty of the hospital, nor should these workers have to spend their time admitting patients and learning their financial status, important as this work is. Their distinct duty is to be an adjunct to medical treatment, a link between the hospital and the home.

Foreigners are prone to think of hospitals as "places where you go to die." It devolves upon the hospital to quiet their fears, not only to make them understand but to render them understood. It is excellent practice to provide interpreters and foreign visitors who contribute valuable help.

Cleveland's lack of appreciation of dispensary service is indicated by the fact that there are only 12 calls at dispensaries per 100 population here, while in New York, Boston and Chicago, there are 80, 50, and 40, respectively. Six hospitals conduct dispensaries and each of the seven health centers supports one.

It is evident that the hospitals and dispensaries of Cleveland were planted, not planned. Each has grown without any relation to the other. The time has come when a community plan should be realized, so that the present neglect of care of children, and of eye, ear and nose diseases will be impossible.

Too much cannot be said of the good work done by the Cleveland Hospital Council. Organization is only machinery, however, to make the road smoother. Ultimate success depends upon the individual soul, civic pride, and spirit of cooperation, qualities which Cleveland has always manifested in a very large degree.

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